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July 22, 1999

Docket Management Branch  
Food and Drug Administration  
Department of Health and Human Services  
12420 Parklawn Drive, Room 1-23  
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Dear Docket Management Branch,

I am writing you in support of the petition (docket number 98P-0203/CP) that the United Poultry Concerns has submitted for a ban on forced molting.

Hens used in the egg industry are systematically starved for up to two weeks, and in some cases they are deprived of water for days at a time. This forced molting shocks hens' systems into higher productivity. Not only does this practice cause intense suffering and sometimes death, but according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's research, it makes hens far more susceptible to salmonella infection and to laying salmonella-contaminated eggs.

Please support the petition. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



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98P-0203

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